

# [***December 08, 2022: Latham & Watkins Advises Energy Transfer LP in Pricing of US$2.5 Billion of Senior Notes***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6734-T5B1-DXKH-N47X-00000-00&context=1516831)

News Bites - Private Companies

December 14, 2022 Wednesday

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**Section:** ANNOUNCEMENTS

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**Body**

Energy Transfer LP (NYSE: ET) announced the pricing of its US$1.0 billion aggregate principal amount of 5.550% senior notes due 2028 and US$1.5 billion aggregate principal amount of 5.750% senior notes due 2033 at a price to the public of 99.974% and 99.891%, respectively, of their face value. The sale of the senior notes is expected to settle on December 14, 2022, subject to the satisfaction of customary closing conditions.

Latham & Watkins LLP represents Energy Transfer in the transaction with a Houston-based corporate deal team led by partners Kevin Richardson and Bill Finnegan, with associates Dan Harrist, Michael Pascual, Kathy Phan, and Kevin Donovan.

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SECTION 1 LATHAM & WATKINS LLP PROFILE

1.1 ACTIVITIES

Latham & Watkins offers legal advisory services. The firms practice areas include antitrust, joint ventures and strategic alliances, entertainment and media industry, funds and acquisition vehicles, finance, hotels, resorts, and gaming, out-of-court restructurings, benefits and compensation, controversy practice, exempt organizations, and international tax. Latham & Watkins was founded in 1934 and is headquartered in Los Angeles, California. The firm has additional offices in Boston, Chicago, Frankfurt, Hamburg, Hong Kong, London, Moscow, New Jersey, and New York.

1.2 SUMMARY

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SECTION 2 LATHAM & WATKINS LLP FINANCIALS

Latham & Watkins LLP

Key Stats

Latham & Watkins LLP has 4,500 employees.

Latham & Watkins LLP Revenue was $4 Billion in 2021.

Year: 2021; Revenue: $4 B

SECTION 3 LATHAM & WATKINS LLP RANKING

Latham & Watkins LLP was ranked 104 in the Forbes list of Top 216 American Private Companies by Total Revenues in 2021.

SECTION 4 PRESS RELEASES: 2022

December 13: Latham & Watkins Advises Erasca on License Agreement With Novartis and Concurrent Common Stock Offering

Erasca, Inc. (Nasdaq: ERAS), a clinical-stage precision oncology company singularly focused on discovering, developing, and commercializing therapies for patients with RAS/MAPK pathway-driven cancers, has announced it has entered into an exclusive worldwide license agreement with Novartis (NYSE: NVS) for naporafenib, a Phase 2 pivotal-ready pan-RAF inhibitor with a potential first-in-class and best-in-class profile in NRAS mutant (NRASm) melanoma and other RAS/MAPK pathway-driven tumors. To date, naporafenib has been dosed in over 500 patients across multiple trials and has demonstrated preliminary clinical proof-of-concept as well as favorable safety and tolerability data both as a single agent and in combination with other molecularly targeted and immuno-oncology therapies.

As separately announced, Erasca has priced a US$100 million equity offering with select healthcare investors. The offering is expected to close on December 13, 2022, subject to the satisfaction of customary closing conditions.

Latham & Watkins LLP advised Erasca on the license transaction with a team led by Bay Area partner Judith Hasko and San Diego Counsel Darryl Steensma. Advice was also provided on securities matters by San Diego partners Cheston Larson and Matt Bush, with associate Claire Drucker. The San Diego team also led the common stock offering transaction.

Source: Company Website

December 12: Latham & Watkins Represents Mediawan in Plan B Partnership to Create a Global Production Platform

Mediawan, a leading independent premium content studio in Europe led by Pierre-Antoine Capton, and Plan B Entertainment, an award-winning US production company co-founded and led by Brad Pitt, along with co-presidents Dede Gardner and Jeremy Kleiner, have announced that they have entered into a definitive agreement for Mediawan to acquire a significant stake in Plan B. By joining forces with Plan B, Mediawan, together with its strategic partner KKR, expands beyond its core European markets into the US.

Latham & Watkins LLP advised Mediawan in the transaction, with a deal team led by New York M&A partner Justin Hamill, Century City entertainment, sports and media partners Rick Offsay and Kendall Johnson, and New York M&A associate Julian Azran, with support from Century City Counsel Adam Rachlis, New York associates Aubrey Steiger and Sofia Skara, and Century City associate Djenab Conde. Advice was also provided on tax matters by Bay Area partner Katherine Moir, with Washington, D.C. associate Abigail Friedman; on benefits matters by Bay Area partner Erin Murphy, with New York associate Alisa Hand; on intellectual property matters by Los Angeles partner Ghaith Mahmood, with associate Nicole Nour; on antitrust matters by Brussels partner Carles Esteva Mosso, Washington, D.C. partner Ian Conner, New York partner Katherine Rocco, Washington, D.C.counsel Britton Davis, and Brussels counsel Wesley Lepla, with New York associates Carla Palma and Karen Kim; on litigation matters by New York partner Jamie Wine, Washington, D.C. partner Nick McQuaid and New York associate Ryan Jones; and on real estate matters by New York partner Michelle Kelban and counsel Shira Bressler.

Source: Company Website

December 09: Latham & Watkins Advises on Getaround's Closed Business Combination With InterPrivate II Acquisition Corp

Getaround, the world's first connected carsharing marketplace, has announced the Company has completed its previously announced business combination with InterPrivate II Acquisition Corp. (NYSE: IPVA). In connection with the completion of the business combination, Getaround's common stock and warrants began trading on the NYSE under the ticker symbols "GETR" and "GETR.WS," respectively, on December 9, 2022.

Latham & Watkins LLP represented UBS Securities LLC, lead capital markets advisor to Getaround, and LionTree Advisors LLC, financial advisor to InterPrivate II, in the transaction with a corporate team led by New York partners Erika Weinberg and Peter Labonski, with associates Sofia Sitterson and Alex Gulino. Advice was also provided on employment matters by Chicago partner Nineveh Alkhas and New York counsel Sandra Benjamin; on benefits & compensation matters by New York partner Bradd Williamson, with associate Annie Anderson; on tax matters by New York partner Jiyeon Lee-Lim, with associate Eni Kassim; on US data privacy matters by Washington, D.C. partner Clayton Northouse, with associate Jimmy Smith; on EU data privacy matters by London partner Gail Crawford and Paris partner Myria Saarinen, with associates Alex Ford-Cox and Charlotte Guerin; and on intellectual property matters by New York partner Jeff Tochner, with associate Sebastian Moss.

Source: Company Website

December 09: Latham Wins Finance Deal of the Year at ALB Philippine Law Awards 2022

Latham & Watkins has been honored in the Finance Deal of the Year category at the ALB Philippine Law Awards 2022. The annual awards celebrate the outstanding performances of legal teams that have made a positive and significant impact in the Philippines.

Latham advised San Miguel Corporation (SMC), one of the Philippines' largest and most diversified conglomerates, on the US$2.17 billion financing of the land development works for the first implementation phase of a new airport to be developed in Bulacan, Philippines.

Source: Company Website

December 08: Latham & Watkins LLP: Washington Council of Lawyers Recognizes Latham With Law Firm Award

Latham & Watkins is honored to be recognized as the 2022 Law Firm Award recipient by the Washington Council of Lawyers. The award recognizes firms who have consistently demonstrated leadership in pro bono service.

Washington Council of Lawyers is the public interest bar association for the District of Columbia. The group works to promote pro bono service and public interest law, expand access to justice, and create a vibrant public interest-minded community throughout the District of Columbia.

"We are grateful to be recognized for our pro bono leadership and are proud of our collaboration with the Washington Council of Lawyers as they work to ensure that our legal system treats everyone fairly," said partner and Global Pro Bono Chair Anne Robinson.

Source: Company Website

December 08: Latham Leadership Honored at 2022 Financial Times Innovative Lawyers North America Awards

Rich Trobman, Chair and Managing Partner of Latham & Watkins, has received the Most Innovative Leader award in the 2022 Financial Times Innovative Lawyers North America report, which also commended several firm practice-specific initiatives and ranked Latham among the most innovative law firms.

The Financial Times recognized Trobman's record of success over more than 30 years at Latham, particularly since becoming Chair and Managing Partner in 2018. Trobman attributes part of Latham's notable success over the past three years to the firm's "focus on investing for the future rather than purely on short-term measures of success."

Source: Company Website

December 07: Latham Advises on Financing to Support NRG Energy, Inc.'s Acquisition of Vivint Smart Home, Inc.

NRG Energy, Inc. (NYSE: NRG) and Vivint Smart Home, Inc. (NYSE: VVNT), a leading smart home company in the United States, have announced that they have entered into a definitive agreement pursuant to which NRG will acquire Vivint for US$12 per share or US$2.8 billion in an all-cash transaction with an implied multiple of 6.3x run-rate Enterprise Value to Adjusted EBITDA. The agreement has been unanimously approved by the boards of directors of both companies. The transaction is expected to close in the first quarter of 2023 and is subject to customary closing conditions.

Latham & Watkins LLP represented the financing provider to support the transaction with a banking team led by New York partners Dan Seale and Nicole Fanjul, with associate Sarah Lohschelder, and a capital markets team led by New York partner Keith Halverstam and New York counsel Ryan deFord, with associates Simon Cooke and Ian Lachow. Advice was also provided on energy regulatory matters by Washington, D.C. partner Tyler Brown, with associate Jamie Blackburn; and on environmental matters by New York counsel David Langer.

Source: Company Website

December 07: Latham Advises on Vor Bio's Offering of Common Stock and Concurrent Private Placement for Aggregate Proceeds of US$115.8 Million

Vor Bio (Nasdaq: VOR), a clinical-stage cell and genome engineering company, has announced the pricing of an underwritten offering and a private placement, with combined gross proceeds of approximately US$115.8 million. The offering and concurrent private placement are expected to close on December 9, 2022, subject to satisfaction of customary closing conditions.

Latham & Watkins LLP represents the underwriters and placements agents in the transactions with a corporate team led by partners Peter Handrinos and Nathan Ajiashvili, with associates Matt DeSilva, MacLane Taggart, and Alexandra Kustra.

Source: Company Website

December 07: Latham Advises Saur in Connection With the European Commission's Review of Veolia's Acquisition of Suez, and Subsequently on Saur's Acquisition of Veolia's Mobile Water Services Business

Latham & Watkins advised Saur in connection with the acquisition of Suez by Veolia, one of the leading mobile water players in Europe, first as a third party to the procedure during the review of the transaction by the European Commission and the UK Competition and Markets Authority (CMA), and then as purchaser of the divested assets in the context of the commitments made by Veolia.

Saur's action as a third party during the review of the transaction by the European Commission and the CMA was illustrated by regular and extensive exchanges with the competition authorities' team in charge of the case, in particular concerning the analysis of the horizontal effects of the Veolia/Suez transaction on the mobile water markets in France, in the UK, and in Europe. Saur then positioned itself as a purchaser of the divested Mobile Water Services assets (MWS), which were owned by Veolia.

Source: Company Website

December 07: Latham & Watkins Advises Lime Rock Partners in Ardyne's Strategic Partnership With Weatherford

Weatherford International plc (NASDAQ: WFRD) announced a strategic partnership with Ardyne, a leader in specialized well-decommissioning technology. This agreement will enable Weatherford and Ardyne to deliver significant value to customers globally by offering the industry's most comprehensive portfolio of Plug & Abandonment and Slot Recovery solutions.

Latham & Watkins LLP represents Lime Rock Partners, a private equity firm focused solely on the upstream oil and gas sector of which Ardyne is a portfolio company, in the transaction with a cross-border corporate deal team led by Houston private equity and M&A partner Bruce Herzog and London private equity and M&A partner Beatrice Lo, with Houston associate Omar Shariff.

Source: Company Website

December 07: Latham Honored with Two Prestigious Awards at Mergermarket European M&A Awards 2022

Mergermarket has named Latham & Watkins European Private Equity Legal Adviser of the Year, for the second year in succession, and Israel Legal Adviser of the Year, at its European M&A Awards 2022. The annual awards recognise financial and legal advisers' excellence in M&A deals. Winners are determined based on Mergermarket league tables and on input from an independent judging panel.

Latham was also shortlisted in a number of categories, including European M&A Legal Adviser, European Mid-Market M&A Legal Adviser, Germany Legal Adviser, MENA Legal Adviser, and United Kingdom Legal Adviser.

Source: Company Website

December 06: Latham & Watkins Advises Yildirim Group in Acquisition of Elementis' Chromium Business

Elementis plc, a global specialty chemicals company, has announced that it has agreed to sell its Chromium business to Yildirim Group for an enterprise value of US$170 million. The transaction is subject to US regulatory approval, which is expected before the end of Q1 2023.

Latham & Watkins LLP represents Yildirim Group in the transaction with a cross-border deal team led by Houston corporate partner Kevin Richardson, with Houston associates Thomas Hillebrand, Brent Wagner, Vera Bespalova, and Tasbiha Batool, and London corporate partner Nick Cline, with London associate Tom Channing. Advice was also provided on US environmental matters by Houston partner Joel Mack, Washington, D.C. partner Julia Hatcher, and Los Angeles counsel Joshua Marnitz, with associates Jacqueline Zhang and Andrew Landolfi; on finance matters by Houston counsel Bryce Kaufman; on US tax matters by Houston partner Jared Grimley, with associate Dominick Constantino; on UK tax matters by London partner Sean Finn, with associate Aoife McCabe; on benefits and compensation matters by Washington, D.C. partner Adam Kestenbaum, with associate Joe Denker; on US real estate matters by Chicago counsel Jeffrey Anderson; on sanctions matters by Washington, D.C. partners Les Carnegie and Damara Chambers; and on antitrust matters by Washington, D.C. partner Jason Cruise, Frankfurt/Dusseldorf partner Max Hauser, and Washington, D.C.counsel Peter Todaro.

Source: Company Website

December 06: Latham & Watkins LLP: The Law Firm of Salman M. Al-Sudairi and Latham Advise Jahez on Acquisition of The Chefz

The Law Firm of Salman M. Al-Sudairi and Latham & Watkins have advised Jahez International Company for Information System Technology (Jahez), an information systems company that develops and operates a group of leading applications to connect users with restaurants and merchants, facilitates logistics, and cloud kitchens, on its SAR 650 million acquisition of The Chefz, a food delivery application that provides niche users with a curated selection of fine dining, baked goods, confectionary, and occasional gifts from specialized merchants.

Under the terms of the transaction, Jahez will acquire 100% of The Chefz through a combination of cash and shares issued in Jahez. The proposed transaction is likely to be closed in Q1- 2023 and remains subject to customary condition precedents and approvals.

Source: Company Website

December 06: Latham & Watkins Represents Infrared Cameras Holdings, Inc. in Merger With SportsMap Tech Acquisition Corp.

Infrared Cameras Holdings, Inc., a leading provider of intelligent thermal imaging platforms, and SportsMap Tech Acquisition Corp. (NASDAQ: SMAP), a publicly-traded special purpose acquisition company, have announced that they have entered into a definitive agreement that will establish Infrared Cameras Holdings as a publicly-traded company expected to be listed on NASDAQ.

Latham & Watkins LLP represents Infrared Cameras Holdings in the transaction with a deal team led by Houston partner Nick Dhesi, with associates Rachel Ratcliffe, Monika Kluziak, Katherine Medler, and Janhavi Das on M&A matters, and Orange County partner Drew Capurro, with associates Christopher Bezeg, Lucas Balchun, Azzam Chaudhry, and Kennedy Holmes on capital markets matters. Advice was also provided on benefits matters by Los Angeles partner Michelle Carpenter, with associate Charity Wyatt; on regulatory matters by Washington, D.C. partners Jason Cruise and Jim Barker, with counsels Joseph Simei and Peter Todaro; on tax matters by Houston partners Bryant Lee and Jared Grimley, with associate Dominick Constantino; on environmental matters by Los Angeles counsel Joshua Marnitz; on intellectual property and data privacy matters by Bay Area partner Michelle Gross, with associate Kiara Vaughn; on economic sanctions, export controls and FCPA matters by London/Washington, D.C. partner Nathan Seltzer, with associates Elizabeth Annis and Eric Green; on healthcare and FDA matters by Bay Area counsel Betty Pang, with associate Chad Jennings; and on government contracts matters by Washington, D.C.counsel Dean Baxtresser, with associate Allen Perry.

Source: Company Website

December 06: Latham & Watkins Advises X-energy in De-SPAC Business Combination With Ares Acquisition Corporation

X Energy Reactor Company, LLC (X-energy), a leading developer of small modular nuclear reactors and fuel technology for clean energy generation, and Ares Acquisition Corporation (NYSE: AAC), a publicly-traded special purpose acquisition company, have announced that they have entered into a definitive business combination agreement. The combination will establish X-energy as a publicly-traded developer of a more advanced small modular reactor and proprietary fuel that supports the transition to clean, affordable energy through enhanced safety, lower cost, scalability, and broader industrial applications. The transaction is expected to be completed in the second quarter of 2023. Upon the closing of the transaction, the combined company will be named X-Energy, Inc., and its common equity securities and warrants will be listed on the New York Stock Exchange.

Source: Company Website

December 05: Latham Advises Zapp on Merger with CIIG Capital Partners II

Zapp Electric Vehicles Limited (Zapp), a UK-based, high-performance two-wheel electric vehicle company and CIIG Capital Partners II, Inc. (CIIG II) (Nasdaq: CIIG; Units: CIIGU; Warrants: CIIGW), a special purpose acquisition company sponsored by CIIG Management II LLC, announced the execution of a definitive business combination agreement. Upon closing of the transaction, the combined company, Zapp Electric Vehicles Group Limited, a Cayman Islands exempted company, is expected to list its ordinary shares on the Nasdaq under the ticker symbol "ZAPP".

The combined company will have an estimated fully-diluted post-transaction enterprise value of $573 million, consisting of an estimated equity value of $852 million, $274 million in new cash to the balance sheet (assuming no redemptions by CIIG II public stockholders) and $5 million in existing cash.

Source: Company Website

December 02: Latham Recognized for Licensing Deal of the Year at 2022 Scrip Awards

Pharma Intelligence UK recognized Latham & Watkins with its Licensing Deal of the Year award at the 2022 Scrip Awards. The awards program, now in its 18th year, celebrates "the very best innovations and achievements in global biopharma." Winners were determined by an independent global judging panel of senior industry experts.

Latham received the award for representing GlaxoSmithKline plc in its strategic global collaboration with Alector, Inc. for the development and commercialization of two clinical-stage, potential first-in-class monoclonal antibodies (AL001 and AL101) designed to elevate progranulin (PGRN) levels. The transaction team was led by San Diego partner Steve Chinowsky and San Diego counsel Darryl Steensma, with London associate Oliver Mobasser.

Latham's global, cross-disciplinary healthcare and life sciences team delivers insightful, practical guidance and sophisticated representation to a full spectrum of companies across the globe, on every type of transaction or dispute a company may face. Many in the practice hold advanced scientific degrees and have served in senior positions as government regulators, C-Suite executives in leading healthcare and life sciences companies, as well as serving as primary outside counsel for key industry associations.

Source: Company Website

December 02: Latham & Watkins Advises Stericycle in Completed Divestiture of Communications Solutions Business to Carenet Health

Stericycle, Inc. (Nasdaq: SRCL), a leading provider of regulated medical waste management and secure information destruction solutions, has announced that it has completed the divestiture of its Communication Solutions business to Carenet Health, one of the healthcare industry's leading consumer engagement and telehealth partners, for approximately US$45 million in cash, subject to customary adjustments. Stericycle intends to use the net proceeds from the divestiture to pay down outstanding debt.

Latham & Watkins LLP represented Stericycle in the transaction with a corporate deal team led by Chicago partners Bradley Faris and Max Schleusener, with associates Megan Staub, Valentina Oliver, and Leah Beukelman. Advice was also provided on tax matters by Chicago partner Diana Doyle, with associates Michael Zucker and Joe Gu; on benefits and compensation matters by New York partner Bradd Williamson, with associate Max Raskin; on intellectual property matters by New York partner Jeffrey Tochner, with associate Sabastian Moss; on data privacy matters by Bay Area partners Heather Deixler and Robert Blamires, with associate Adriana Beach; on environmental matters by Chicago partner Karl Karg; and on insurance matters by associate Hannah Cary.

Source: Company Website

December 02: Latham & Watkins Advises Cerifi and LRN, Portfolio Companies of Leeds Equity Partners in Strategic Acquisitions From Thomson Reuters

CeriFi, a diversified education, training, and certification provider serving professionals across the financial services market and a portfolio company of Leeds Equity Partners, has announced the acquisitions of Checkpoint Learning and West LegalEdcenter from Thomson Reuters Corporation, significantly expanding its professional licensing and continuing education offerings across the accounting, tax and legal sectors. Separately, LRN Corporation, the leader in ethics and compliance solutions that enable organizations to inspire principled performance and a portfolio company of Leeds Equity Partners, has announced that it has acquired the Compliance Learning business unit from Thomson Reuters, further enhancing LRN's global reach, solution offerings, and international client base.

Latham & Watkins LLP advised Cerifi and LRN, both portfolio companies of Leeds Equity Partners, a New York-based private equity firm dedicated exclusively to partnering with management teams in the education, training, and information services industries, in both transactions with a corporate deal team led by New York partner Jane Greyf, with associates Alyssa Galinsky, Natasha Burnett, and Stephany Yang. Advice was also provided on financing matters by New York partner Josh Tinkelman, with associate Sonja Pollack; on intellectual property matters by New York counsel Carrie Girgenti, with associate Zachary Shufro; on benefits and compensation matters by New York partner Bradd Williamson, with associate Alisa Hand; and on tax matters by Century City partner Pardis Zomorodi, with associate Christine Mainguy.

Source: Company Website

December 02: Latham & Watkins Advises Wander.com on US$100 Million Credit Facility From Credit Suisse and Launch of Atlas Reit

Wander.com, a platform that allows users to book smart homes, has announced the closing of a US$100 million credit facility with Zurich-based Credit Suisse. With this capital infusion, Wander will invest in expanding its network of smart vacation homes from coast-to-coast to more than double the size of their portfolio in the first half of 2023. In addition to the facility for expansion, Wander announced the launch of Wander Atlas, the industry's first and only vacation rental REIT. Atlas transforms Wander's customers into partial property owners by enabling them to own a piece of the inspiring network of homes while unlocking the potential to earn high yield-passive income and diversifying their portfolio. Both the Atlas REIT and US$100 million credit facility from Credit Suisse enable the 18-month-old company to scale efficiently.

Latham & Watkins LLP represents Wander in both the credit facility and launch of the Wander Atlas REIT. The finance team was led by New York partner Loren Finegold, with associates David Siegel, Benjamin Gelfand, Jacob Watts, and Ananya Hindupur. Advice was also provided on corporate matters by Austin partner Scott Craig, with associates Clayton Cromer, Omar Ammash and Autumn Schmidt; on real estate matters by New York counsel Shira Bressler; on tax matters by Los Angeles partner Eric Cho, with associate Kathryn Harrington; and on ERISA matters by Los Angeles counsel Aryeh Zuber. The REITs team was led by Orange County partner Bill Cernius, Century City partner Pardis Zomorodi, Austin partner Scott Craig, and Orange County counsel David Kuiper, with associates Mark Semotiuk, Clayton Cromer, Michael Nieberg, Soheil Ebadat, Katherine Medler, Arash Lotfi, and Manu Vadlamudi.

Source: Company Website

December 01: Latham & Watkins Represents Purigen Biosystems in Its Acquisition by Bionano Genomics

Bionano Genomics, Inc. (NASDAQ: BNGO) has announced that it has entered into a definitive agreement to acquire Purigen Biosystems, Inc., a company that develops and commercializes automated nucleic acid extraction and purification solutions using proprietary isotachophoresis technology, which was licensed exclusively from Stanford and developed by Purigen.

Latham & Watkins LLP represented Purigen in the transaction with a corporate deal team led by Bay Area partner Mark Roeder, with associates Rachelle Polsky, and Kevin Schunk. Advice was also provided on tax matters by Century City counsel Will Kessler, with San Diego associate Ryan Brenner; on intellectual property matters by Bay Area partner Jekkie Kim with associate Billy Wu; on data privacy matters by Houston counsel Robert Brown, with Bay Area/San Diego associate Jennifer Howes; and on benefits and compensation matters by Bay Area partner James Metz.

Source: Company Website

SECTION 5 PRESS RELEASES ESG

November 05: Latham & Watkins Advises IFM Investors on Joint Venture with Deutsche Telekom

Latham & Watkins LLP advised IFM Global Infrastructure Fund, advised by IFM Investors (together "IFM") on a longterm partnership with Deutsche Telekom. IFM will acquire a 50 percent stake in group subsidiary and fiber roll-out company GlasfaserPlus GmbH.

The resulting Joint Venture, aims to roll out additional gigabit-capable FTTH (fiber to the home) to over four million homes in rural and subsidized areas in Germany by 2028. Subject to pending merger control and other applicable approvals by the relevant authorities, the joint venture is expected to roll out fiber networks from 2022 and also participate in government subsidy tenders. The resulting network will be opened up to Deutsche Telekom as well as its competitors on a non-discriminatory basis. GlasfaserPlus GmbH will offer attractive bitstream access (BSA) services to Deutsche Telekom and third-party providers on a wholesale basis.

IFM Investors was established more than 25 years ago and is owned by a group of Australian pension funds. IFM Investors manages funds of EUR108bn (as at June 30 2021) on behalf of pension funds and other like-minded institutional investors, who represent more than 30 million pension fund members globally. IFM Investors actively engages on ESG issues with the companies in which it invests with the aim of enhancing their net performance while minimising investment risk.

Source: Company Website

October 22: Latham & Watkins Advises Platinum Equity on the acquisition of Continental Bakeries

Platinum Equity portfolio company, Biscuit International, one of the leading European manufacturers of private label biscuits, has reached an agreement to acquire Continental Bakeries from its majority shareholders, Goldman Sachs Asset Management.

Continental Bakeries is a leading European manufacturer of private label sweet biscuits, bread replacements and toast. Its manufacturing operations consist of 13 production facilities in Netherlands, Belgium, Germany, Poland and Sweden. Completion of the transaction is anticipated during the first half of 2022, subject to customary antitrust and works council approvals.

Latham & Watkins represents Platinum Equity in the transaction with a team led by London corporate partner Tom Evans and Hamburg partner Nils Roever, with Paris associates Simon Lange and Adrien Levallois and Hamburg associates Daniel Kreutzmann and Maximilian Berenbrok. Advice was also provided on finance matters by London partner Dominic Newcomb, with associates John Hutton and Andrew Paisley; on ESG matters by London partner Paul Davies, with counsel Michael Green; on anti-trust matters by Brussels partner Sven Volcker, with associates Anthemis Economou and Apostolos Papadimitriou; on tax matters by London partner Karl Mah and New York partner Matthew Dewitz, with counsel James Leslie and associate Edward Moberly; on employment matters by Munich partner Tobias Leder, with associate Christian Strauss; and on corporate and commercial matters by Hamburg associates Lorenz Koffka, Jana Maue, and Edward Martin.

Source: Company Website

September 16: Latham & Watkins Advises Carlyle on ESG-linked Credit Facility

Global investment firm Carlyle announced it has secured a EUR2.3 billion ESG-linked credit facility for its European private equity and real estate platform, to support the firm's 30% board diversity target, and to address climate change and achieve better ESG outcomes through training. The new facility represents the next step in Carlyle's ongoing commitment in Europe to drive further positive ESG change.

Latham & Watkins LLP represents Carlyle in the transaction with a finance team led by Washington, D.C. partners Ben Berman and Manu Gayatrinath with associates Donald Cooley, Dalton Downing, and Jake Goodman. Advice was also provided on UK law matters by London partner Charles Armstrong with associates Medha Vikram and Francesca Forzoni; and on German law matters by Frankfurt partner Ralph Drager.

Source: Company Website

September 16: Latham & Watkins Advises BayWa on '1.7&#8239; Billion ESG-linked Syndicated Facilities Agreement

Latham & Watkins LLP advised BayWa AG (BayWa) on a syndicated credit financing of EUR1.7&#8239; billion. The facilities agreement is the first in the company's history linked to an ESG rating issued by the rating agency MSCI ESG Research. MSCI ESG Research has awarded the BayWa Group an "AA" rating. The syndicated facilities agreement is linked to environmental, social and corporate governance criteria (ESG) and comes with a three-year term offering two extension options of one year each. The syndicated facilities agreement was coordinated by DZ BANK AG, Landesbank Baden-Wurttemberg and UniCredit Bank AG as bookrunners.

BayWa, based in Munich, is a globally active group with the core segments of, energy, agriculture, and building materials, as well as the development segment innovation & digitalisa-tion. As a global player it develops leading projects and solutions for the basic human needs of food, energy, and building. The company employs approximately 21,000 people and generated around EUR17 billion in revenue in 2020.

Latham & Watkins regularly advises BayWa on transactions, most recently at the end of 2020, on the capital increase at BayWa r.e. renewable energy GmbH, the largest transaction in BayWa's company history.

The Latham team was co-led by Munich partner Thomas Weitkamp and counsel Ludwig Zesch; with corporate partner Rainer Traugott and associates Stephan Hufnagel and Hendrik Ley; Madrid partner Fernando Colomina and associates Pablo Alarcon, Aitor Errasti, and Blanca Vazquez de Castro; and Milan partner Antongiulio Scialpi and associate Simona Di Marcantonio. Advice was also provided on tax matters by Munich counsel Ulf Kieker, Madrid partner Ivan Rabanillo, with associates Juan Rodriguez and Ana Serrano; and on environ-ment, land & resources matters by associate Leticia Sitges.

September 10: Latham & Watkins Advises on India's first Sustainable AT1 notes issuance

Axis Bank, India's third largest private sector bank, has successfully closed its US$600 million issuance of Sustainable Additional Tier 1 (AT1) notes in the overseas markets. This is a first-of-its-kind transaction and makes India only one of two jurisdictions in Asia with an ESG AT1 issuance. The transaction is also Axis Bank's largest ever single-tranche USD bond issuance to date.

The bonds were sold to qualified institutional buyers in reliance on Rule 144A and outside the United States in offshore transactions in reliance on Regulation S. The issuance has been given a rating of B1 by Moody's Rating Services.

Latham & Watkins advised the Lead Managers in the transaction, comprising Axis Bank Limited, Singapore Branch, BNP PARIBAS, BofA Securities, Citigroup, Credit Agricole CIB, Emirates NBD Capital, HSBC, J.P. Morgan, Mashreqbank psc, MUFG, Standard Chartered Bank and Societe Generale.

The deal team was led by Singapore partner Rajiv Gupta. Additional advice on English law was provided by London partner Manoj Tulsiani with associate Clive Wong; on US law by Singapore partner Min Yee Ng; and on regulatory issues by New York partner Courtenay Myers Lima. Advice on tax matters was provided by London partner Sean Finn, and New York partners Gregory Hannibal and Elena Romanova with associate Ronald Moore.

Source: Company Website

August 25: Latham & Watkins Advises Global Infrastructure Partners in Acquisition of Saavi Energ a from Actis

Global Infrastructure Partners (GIP), a leading global infrastructure private equity manager, and Actis, a leading global investor in sustainable infrastructure, have jointly announced that Actis has sold 100% of Saavi Energia (Saavi), the fourth largest independent power producer and the largest privately held stand-alone power generator in Mexico, to GIP. Terms of the transaction were not released.

GIP's acquisition of Saavi follows its investment in the Company's US$325 million Secured Term Loan in 2020, which was refinanced as part of this transaction, and marks GIP's first direct equity investment in Mexico. GIP focuses on managing infrastructure investments in its core sectors. The significant need for infrastructure provision in developing markets presents opportunities for GIP to further extend its operating expertise, sector knowledge and ESG focus across these emerging global economies.

Source: Company Website

August 11: Latham & Watkins LLP: Announcing the Publication of 'Business Recovery and Return to Normal: ESG, Enterprise Risk Management, and Risk Screening'

We are thrilled to announce the publication of "Business Recovery and Return to Normal: ESG, Enterprise Risk Management and Risk Screening." Co-written with the World Business Council for Sustainable Development, this comprehensive guide explores various approaches to early stage risk screening in the context of environmental, social, and governance (ESG) issues and enterprise risk management (ERM).

As the link between ESG factors and ERM becomes increasingly explicit, organizations must find ways to examine business risks related to a wider and more diverse range of issues. This guide offers importance guidance and complements our ESG Litigation Roadmap.

Source: Company Website

July 14: Latham & Watkins Advises Platinum Equity in Acquisition of Oregon Tool

Platinum Equity, American Securities, and P2 Capital Partners have announced the signing of a definitive agreement under which Platinum Equity will acquire Oregon Tool, a global manufacturer and distributor of aftermarket-driven professional grade cutting tools, outdoor equipment accessories, and parts. American Securities and P2 Capital have owned the company (previously known as Blount International) since taking it private in 2016. Financial terms were not disclosed.

Latham & Watkins LLP represents Platinum Equity in the transaction with a corporate deal team led by partners David Brown and Marc Granger, with associates Cierra Warren, Clayton Mark, Jill Rubinger, and CJ Harrington. Advice was also provided on tax matters by partner Matthew Dewitz; on benefits and compensation matters by partner Matthew Conway, with associate Kirk Porter; on environmental matters by partner James Barrett, with associate Peter Viola; on ESG matters by partner Paul Davies and counsel Michael Green; on intellectual property matters by associates Morgan Brubaker and Ryan Sanders; on anti-corruption matters by partner Eric Volkman, with associate Christopher Ting; on export and trade controls matters by counsel Sarah Nappi, with associates Elizabeth Annis and Delia Tasky; on real estate matters by counsel Jeffrey Anderson, with associate Bryon Eagon; on capital markets matters by partner Patrick Shannon and counsel Christopher Cronin; on finance matters by partner Scott Forchheimer, with associate Melissa Fabian; on insurance matters by partner Drew Levin, with associate Hannah Cary; on antitrust matters by partner Max Hauser, with associate Alisia Haber; and on foreign direct investment matters by counsel Jana Dammann de Chapto. All lawyers are based in the firm's Washington, D.C. office, with the exception of Mr.

June 11: Latham & Watkins Advises on Monday.com IPO

Latham & Watkins advised Monday.com, a cloud-based platform that allows companies to create their own applications and work management software, on the pricing of its initial public offering of 3,700,000 ordinary shares at a price to the public of US$155 per share. In addition, Monday.com has granted the underwriters a 30-day option to purchase up to an additional 370,000 ordinary shares at the IPO price.

The share price gives Monday.com a valuation of approximately US$6.8 billion, making it one of the largest ever offerings by an Israeli company on Nasdaq.

The Latham team was led by partners Josh Kiernan, Marc Jaffe, and Ian Schuman, with associates John Slater, Gilad Zohari, and Angel Marcial. Advice on compliance matters was provided by partners Erin Brown Jones, Les Carnegie, and associate Elizabeth Annis; on data protection and intellectual property by partners Gail Crawford, Michael Rubin, and Sarah Gagan, with associates Oscar Bjartell, Max Mazzelli, Wesley Tiu, and Pelin Serpin; on employment and benefits by partners Bradd Williamson and Nineveh Alkhas, counsel Rifka Singer, and associate Leah Segall; on ESG matters by partner Paul Davies and counsel Michael Green; and on tax matters by partners Elena Romanova and Brian McManus, with associates Michael Yu and Darcee Case.

Source: Company Website

June 10: Latham & Watkins Advises OMERS on Northvolt's US$2.75 Billion Funding Round

Latham & Watkins advised OMERS, one of Canada's largest defined benefit pension plans, as it co-led a US$2.75 billion private placement in Northvolt. The funding round is Nothvolt's biggest to date and will finance further battery cell production capacity and Northvolt's R&D efforts in order to meet the increasing demand of customers engaged in the transition to decarbonized, electric solutions.

The private placement was co-led by new investors OMERS and AP funds 1-4, via the co-owned company, 4 to 1 Investments, alongside existing investors Goldman Sachs Asset Management and Volkswagen Group. Also participating in the equity raise were current owners AMF, ATP, Baillie Gifford, Baron Capital Group, Bridford Investments Limited, Compagnia di San Paolo through Fondaco Growth, Cristina Stenbeck, Daniel Ek, IMAS Foundation, EIT InnoEnergy, Norrsken VC, PCS Holding, Scania, and Stena Metall Finans.

Including the private placement, Northvolt has now raised more than US$6.5 billion in equity and debt to enable an expansion plan leading up to and beyond 150 GWh of deployed annual production capacity in Europe by 2030.

The Latham team was led by London corporate partner Mike Turner with associates Alex McCarney and Daria Les. Advice on employment matters was provided by London partner Catherine Drinnan and associate Adam Ray; on ESG matters by London partner Paul Davies and counsel Michael Green; on competition matters by Washington D.C., partner James Barker and associate Stephanie Adams; and on data privacy by associate Calum Docherty.

Source: Company Website

April 29: Latham & Watkins Advises BTG Pactual and Santander in Inaugural DFC-Guaranteed Project Bond in Latin America

Latham & Watkins LLP represented BTG Pactual and Santander as joint bookrunners, and Santander as social bond structuring agent, in the offering by Patrimonio Autonomo Montes de Maria of COP$760 billion (approximately US$209 million) of its 4.1% Senior Secured UVR Indexed Notes due 2045. The proceeds of the notes will be used to refinance existing debt and complete the construction of the Puerta de Hierro - Palmar de Varela y Carreto - Cruz del Viso toll road awarded to Sociedad Concesionaria Vial Montes de Maria S.A.S. by the Colombian Government under its Fourth Generation (4G) toll road program. The project is sponsored by Spanish construction and concession conglomerate Sacyr.

This is the first bond in Latin America to be guaranteed by the US International Development Finance Corporation (DFC). The DFC guaranty was counterguaranteed by Assured Guaranty (AG).

It is also the first social bond for an infrastructure project in Latin America. The bond is aligned with the 2020 Social Bond Principles (SBP) administered by the International Capital Market Association (ICMA).

The Latham team was led by New York corporate partner Guido Liniado, with associates Giancarlo Reanda and Alejandro Espitia, who are all members of the firm's Latin America Practice.

Liniado said: "We are thrilled to have worked with BTG, Santander, DFC, AG, and Sacyr in this ground-breaking transaction. As with all first-of-their-kind transactions, there were multiple challenges - from structuring DFC's US dollar financial guaranty to adequately cover the long-term local currency notes and allow the rating of the notes to pierce through the rating of the sovereign, to balancing the interests of the guarantor and the noteholders, to working through the alignment of the issuance to the SBP. In line with Latham's commitment to provide comprehensive advice on the entire spectrum of Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) issues, we are proud to contribute to the expansion of ESG initiatives into the infrastructure sector in Latin America.

April 14: Latham and AFME Develop New Report to Help Financial Institutions Navigate the EU's ESG Reporting Landscape

Latham & Watkins has collaborated with the Association for Financial Markets in Europe (AFME) to produce: The ESG Disclosure Landscape for Banks and Capital Markets in Europe, a new resource designed to help financial institutions navigate Europe's increasingly complex and interrelated ESG disclosure requirements.

In light of the rapid development of Europe's regulatory framework for sustainable finance, and the ambitious and wide-ranging regulations that have been introduced in recent years, the report provides a comprehensive summary of current ESG reporting requirements, offers practical tips for how firms can approach the governance of ESG disclosures, and examines the interplay and overlap between key EU regulations such as the EU Taxonomy, the Non-Financial Reporting Directive, and the Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation, among others.

The report also provides a series of recommendations to assist European policymakers and regulators with establishing a coherent and streamlined disclosure framework.

"We are delighted to have partnered with AFME on this report to help financial institutions develop effective ESG disclosure strategies," said Nicola Higgs, a financial regulatory partner in Latham & Watkins' London office. "Europe is at the forefront of driving the development of disclosure standards, and this comprehensive new resource should provide a blueprint to advance the current regulatory landscape."

Jacqueline Mills, AFME's Head of Advocacy, added "Europe is playing a leading role in sustainable finance and is developing an ambitious and comprehensive ESG reporting framework. Ensuring the availability of high-quality ESG data from corporates should be prioritised as this will be key to facilitating the allocation of capital to companies in a way that supports transition objectives." Source: Company Website

January 12: Latham Advises HSBC on MioTech's Series B Financing Round

Latham & Watkins advised HSBC on an investment in MioTech, the AI-based ESG data provider, in an additional financing round to its Series B. HSBC joins an investor base which currently includes ZhenFund, Horizons Ventures, Moody's, and TOM Group.

The investment was made by HSBC's Strategic Innovation Investments team, a corporate venture capital unit, which takes minority holdings in early stage technology companies.

The Latham team was led by London corporate partner Shing Lo, with associate Samantha Peacock. Source: Company Website

January 07: Latham & Watkins LLP: ESG Flows Drive Clean Energy To Fresh Highs

The ESG theme has taken the capital markets by storm in 2020. Fund flows into this space have been relentless, helping to drive the clean energy sector to fresh highs. In the first half of 2020, 23-new exchange-traded funds were launched under the ESG umbrella. By the end of the Q3, ESG index funds hit $250 billion in value. The ESG umbrella focuses on many different areas and has flourished during the pandemic. With a vaccine on the horizon, the question for investors is whether this sector will remain sustainable.

WHAT IS ESG AND ESG INVESTING

The term ESG stands for:

Environmental Social Governance

The term brings to mind concepts like climate change, diversity and inclusion, and resource scarcity. While these are forms of ESG, it also covers social practices, including labor and talent management and data security and product safety. It includes employee experience, executive pay, and ethics. There is a wide divide amongst stakeholders on what the term means and how to communicate and manage the concept.

ESG investing appears to be a derivative of socially responsible investing (SRI), which has been in existence for decades. While profits have always been considered the "mothers milk" of stocks, modern investors have realized that shortchanging stakeholders is a high price for society to pay. A company's stakeholders include its employees, customers, suppliers, as well as the ***environment***, which play a crucial role in the functioning of the corporation.

There is a fine line between ESG investing and SRI. ESG investors actively look for companies that show robust environmental, social, or governance attributes. SRI focuses on excluding industries that have failed to demonstrate compliance in socially responsible areas. ESG provides broader flexibility into specific companies' practices and the different management attributes that make up a corporate initiative.

December 11: Latham & Watkins Advises a Consortium Consisting of Astorg Asset Management, Nordic Capital, Novo Holdings and their Portfolio Company eResearchTechnologies in its Merger with Bioclinica, a Portfolio Company of Cinven

ERT, a global leader in clinical end-point data solutions, has announced that Bioclinica, a technological and scientific leader in clinical imaging, has agreed to merge with eResearchTechnologies (ERT). This combination will create a leading partner to global pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, providing best-in-class technology, scientific and therapeutic expertise, digital innovation and an unrelenting focus on customer service. The proposed transaction is subject to customary closing conditions, including approval by regulatory agencies. ERT and Bioclinica expect the transaction to close in 2021.

Latham & Watkins LLP represents a consortium consisting of Astorg Asset Management, Nordic Capital, Novo Holdings and their portfolio company ERT in the transaction with a corporate team led by New York partner David Beller, London/Paris partner Thomas Forschbach, and Houston partner Lauren Anderson, with associates Saso Kraner, Karen Song, Trevor Kim, Samantha Seley, Michael Basist, and Daisy Clifton-Lee. Advice was also provided on tax matters by partner New York partner Matthew Dewitz, with associate Shruti Hazra; on benefits and compensation matters by Washington, D.C. partner Adam Kestenbaum, with associates Nikhil Kumar and Victoria Wolfe; on labor matters by Chicago counsel Nineveh Alkhas, with associate Laura Waller; on finance matters by New York partner Scott Ollivierre; on antitrust matters by Washington, D.C. partners Mandy Reeves and Jason Cruise and counsels Tomas Nilsson, Jana Dammann de Chapto, and Jason Daniels, with associate Niklas Bruggemann; on healthcare regulatory matters by Hamburg partner Christoph Engeler and Los Angeles counsel Jennifer Yoo, with associates Alyssa Lattner and Jaschar Mirkhani; on FDA regulatory matters by Washington, D.C. partner Elizabeth Richards, with associates Barrett Tenbarge and Julie Shin; on intellectual property matters by New York partner Steven Betensky and New York counsel Carrie Girgenti, with associate Max Miroff; on data privacy and security matters by London partner Gail Crawford and Bay Area counsel Robert Blamires, with associates Jimmy Smith, Oliver Mobasser, and Victoria Wan; on real estate matters by New York counsel Shira Bressler, with associate Michael Nieberg; on EHS and ESG matters by London partner Paul Davies and counsels David Langer and Michael Green; on anti-corruption matters by Washington, D.C.counsel Timothy McCarten and London counsel Daniel Smith, with associate Cassie Martin; on trade controls matters by Washington, D.C.

SECTION 6 LATHAM & WATKINS LLP: DEMOGRAPHY

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